De Gaulle Thinks Police Aided Kennedy Killing

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PARIS (AP) — Science and skepticism were the main reactions today to a French journalist's book reporting that President Charles de Gaulle believes police were involved in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and the slaying of Lee Harvey Oswald.

De Gaulle's office refused to comment on the report by Raymond Tournoux that the French president said of the assassination: "The police did the job, or else they pulled the strings or else they let it happen. In any case they were involved."

Police Chief Charles Batchelor of Dallas said: "We are standing on the reports of the investigation by the Warren Commission and will have no comment on the statements attributed to General de Gaulle."

The White House also refused comment. Asked if De Gaulle had ever told the U.S. government he had such a view of the assassination, White House press secretary George Christian replied: "I never heard of it at all until this moment."

Excerpts from the 700-page book "The General's Tragedy" were published in the magazine Paris Match.

Tournoux did not present the passages as an interview with De Gaulle and he offered no explanation of the origin of quotations attributed to him.

According to De Gaulle's reported view, after Kennedy was slain Oswald was to have been killed quickly but fled, killed a policeman and was then arrested.

On the shooting of Oswald by Jack Ruby, De Gaulle is quoted: "A trial. That would have been terrible. Everyone would have talked. That would have stirred up things. So the police found someone to kill the false assassin under the pretext of defending the memory of Kennedy. What a joke."